

the danger of infection. At the same time, a strong plea is made for licensing prostitution and for legal supervision of the prostitute, and consequent protection for the general public.

The statements of the authors concerning that much-discussed question as to the administration of mercury prior to the appearance of secondary manifestations, are very clear, and, coming from such authorities, must of necessity carry considerable weight. The rule here laid down is—never to administer mercury before the appearance of secondary symptoms, except where one is sure that the sore is a chancre, which is not often the case, and where the diagnosis is still further confirmed by confrontation. One cannot help but be impressed with the fact, in going over the treatment of syphilis as outlined in this treatise, that it is the constant intention of the writers to point out and insist that not only the disease, but the patient also, must be treated. This is a most valuable point, and one so often overlooked by the general practitioner of medicine, who is apt to see in a given case of syphilis nothing more than an indication for the internal administration of either mercury or iodide of potassium. Indispensable as these drugs are, it should always be borne in mind that in many cases very much more is needed.

Chapter XVI, on the examination of the urine, is an extremely valuable contribution to the work, and is a decided novelty in books on genito-urinary diseases. But that such a chapter should be considered necessary in a work of this character is still further evidence of the fact that there can no longer be any hard-and-fast line drawn between the medical man and the genito-urinary surgeon.

As would naturally be expected, the chapter on enlarged prostate and its treatment is a most instructive and important feature of the work, giving in an admirable manner all the methods of treating this troublesome condition. The operation of castration, first devised by Dr. White, for the relief of enlarged prostate, is discussed at some length and the indications for the operation very fully detailed.

In conclusion, it only remains for us to extend our congratulations to the authors upon the appearance of their book, which is surely destined to occupy a leading position as an authority in genito-urinary surgery.

H. M. C.

THE PRINCIPLES OF THEORETICAL CHEMISTRY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE CONSTITUTION OF CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS. By IRA REMSEN. Fifth edition, thoroughly revised. 12mo. pp. x. 320. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co.

A work, especially a text-book in chemistry, that has gone through five editions in a comparatively short time, cannot hope nor fear much from the reviewer. The present edition of Professor Remsen's well-known work presents but little difference from its immediate predecessor. There have been but few pages added, those devoted to stereochemistry. The greater portion of the book is beyond the necessity of criticism or review; it is universally recognized as a conservative and concise exposition of the prevailing theories in regard to the structure of chemical compounds. In the preface we are told that the author

has resisted the temptation to bring the book more into keeping with the modern trend in chemistry, especially physical chemistry. This statement is repeated frankly from the fourth edition; we trust that it will not be repeated in the sixth. It is to be sincerely hoped that the learned author will give us in the next edition a good exposition of the views which have lately been so actively exploited, and which are mostly presented in forms but little available for the average teacher. We would suggest, also, the introduction of a complete table of the elements, with atomic weights as determined by the latest researches.

The typographical execution of the book is good. The index is rather scanty.

H. L.

PATHOLOGICAL TECHNIQUE: A PRACTICAL MANUAL FOR THE PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY. By FRANK BURR MALLORY, A.M., M.D., Assistant Professor of Pathology, Harvard University Medical School; Assistant Pathologist to the Boston City Hospital; Pathologist to the Children's Hospital and to the Carney Hospital; and JAMES HOMER WRIGHT, A.M., M.D., Director of the Laboratory of the Massachusetts General Hospital; Instructor in Pathology, Harvard University Medical School. With 105 illustrations. 8vo. pp. 397. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders, 1897.

THE book which is the subject of this review treats of matters of great and growing importance, with which every physician, though he be not a pathologist or a bacteriologist, should be acquainted.

Pathological technique has developed in recent years with a rapidity truly wonderful, and almost every step of its progress has been followed by some great discovery.

Perhaps the importance of technical knowledge is best exemplified in the history of the development of bacteriology.

The theory of a *contagium vivum* may have had its origin contemporaneously with that of spontaneous generation, though the first mention we can find of it is by M. Terentius Varro, a contemporary of Cicero. It, however, for ages remained but a crude theory, and was not fully developed until the latter part of the present century.

The important advances in our methods of research, which culminated in firmly establishing bacteriology upon a scientific basis, may be said to have begun in 1854, when Schröder and Van Dusch demonstrated the utility of cotton-wool. Then followed the notable experiments upon the sterilization of fluids, conducted principally by Koch and Pasteur. In 1877 Weigert introduced aniline dyes for the staining of bacteria, and the success of this innovation greatly stimulated the study of micro-organisms. In 1881 Koch brought forward the solid culture media and the plate method, a contribution to our resources fraught with the greatest good to the young science then struggling for recognition. These several discoveries, together with the improvements of the compound microscope, have made possible the many brilliant achievements of the workers in the field of bacteriology.

Technique has been as potent a factor in the development of pathology and histology as it has in bacteriology, though in the former its influences are less evident than in the latter.

As pathologists and bacteriologists have always appreciated the importance of technique, they have devoted much time and thought to its

development, so that there is now accumulated a vast amount of material. To select from such an abundance only what is most useful and what essential is a difficult task, demanding, as it does of those who attempt it, great practical knowledge, large experience, good judgment, and nice discrimination. That such qualifications are possessed by Drs. Mallory and Wright is amply shown in the little volume entitled *Pathological Technique* which they have just given to the medical profession.

The authors have divided their subject into three parts, as follows: Part I., Post-mortem Examinations; Part II., Bacteriological Examinations; Part III., Histological Methods.

Part I. does not show the careful preparation so evident in Parts II. and III.; nevertheless, it is very good, and both the practising physician and the beginner in pathological research will find in it much information of great value.

The method recommended for conducting an autopsy is a good one, and we have no hesitancy in advising its adoption where none other has been acquired.

The vital point in conducting an autopsy is method. It matters not how adept the operator may be with the knife, or how thorough his knowledge of pathology, the whole object of the examination may be defeated unless he pursue his investigations in a methodical manner.

Under the headings "General Rules" and "Suggestions to Beginners" are grouped a number of practical hints with which every physician should be conversant.

The remarks upon private autopsies are quite pertinent; and were the precautions advised by the authors always observed the objections to autopsies so generally held by the laity would, to a great extent, be removed.

Positive directions are given for preventing the mutilation of the corpse and the defilement of its coverings, and for preserving the cleanliness of the room wherein the autopsy is held.

In Part II. the presentation of "Bacteriological Examinations" is ably accomplished. It is condensed within a very limited space, and is entirely free from ambiguity, for we may carefully con over the work, page by page, from the beginning to the end of the section, without meeting a passage in which the idea to be conveyed is involved in doubt.

In the first few pages a brief description is given of some of the necessary apparatus for pursuing bacteriological studies, and the chief value of this section is its brevity.

Full instructions are given for the preparation of culture media, the staining and mounting of cover-glass spreads of bacteria, the study of bacteria in tissues and in cultures, the securing of pure cultures, the inoculation of animals, and, in fact, all the essential features of bacteriological technique.

In Bacteriological Diagnosis the more important pathogenic bacteria are described and the peculiar characteristics of each organism noted.

In those instances where special culture-media are required for the propagation of certain micro-organisms, explicit directions are given for the making of those culture media, so that the entire section is replete with the most useful information.

The feature of Part II., sure to be appreciated by every progressive physician, is that devoted to the discussion of clinical bacteriology.

Here one may seek, and not in vain, for the most recent developments in applied bacteriology. Those methods by which it is determined whether or not the causal factor of a disease is a micro-organism receive such careful treatment that many physicians will be enabled to supplement their physical examinations of cases, in which the diagnosis is obscure, by bacteriological investigations; or, if they cannot themselves carry out such investigations, they will find full instructions for collecting the material to be forwarded to a bacteriologist.

The high standard set in Part II. is fully maintained in Part III.

All the various details essential to a thorough examination of specimens are given under appropriate headings.

We deem it unnecessary to particularize the many good features of Part III.; there is one, however, worthy of note, and that is the section treating of the methods employed in the examination of animal parasites.

The description of the examination of the urine is very meagre. Had the authors treated this subject with the consideration its importance warrants, we think that the value of the book would have been greatly enhanced.

Throughout the book there is such an excellent arrangement and classification of the subject, that frequent references to the index are unnecessary. This is, indeed, a very pleasing feature, and we would that all authors were, in such particulars, as painstaking as Drs. Mallory and Wright.

The publishers, too, have ably acquitted themselves.

The book has a neat and substantial binding, the paper is of an excellent quality, the type clear and distinct, and the illustrations numerous and well executed.

In closing this review, the book is one that may be heartily recommended to the pathologist, bacteriologist, and practising physician, and we trust that it will meet with the favor it deserves.

D. B.

AMBROISE PARÉ AND HIS TIMES, 1510-1590. By STEPHEN PAGET. 16mo. pp. 308. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1897.

MR. STEPHEN PAGET has come before the profession recently with two biographies of the Heroes of Medicine: The life of John Hunter and the volume under review. The profession cannot be too familiar with its heroes, among whom in the very first rank as a surgeon is Ambroise Paré. The life before us is very well told in an excellently printed and beautifully illustrated volume. Paré is allowed to tell a large part of the story himself, and it makes a most entertaining volume. The arrangement of the volume does not seem to us as happy as it might have been if the "Journeys in Divers Places" and the "Notes" had been placed toward the end, instead of being interpolated between his early life and his life in Paris, though there is some chronological justification for it.

His account of some of the battles he witnessed and the after-history of the prisoners throws a curious light on the manners of the times. For example, when M. de Vaudeville took M. de Bauge, one of the nobility, a prisoner, M. de Vaudeville, to whom he was unknown, recognized him as a gentleman of good family; he made him pull off his stockings,

and, "seeing his clean legs and feet, and his fine white stockings, knew he was one to pay a good ransom." He bought him from the soldiers for thirty crowns. Later, the Queen of Hungary and the Duc de Savoie sent word to M. de Vaudeville that "this mouthful was too big for him [how near to our modern slang!], and he must send his prisoner to them, which he did, as he had other prisoners enough without him." The ransom paid was forty thousand crowns, without other expenses. Fighting seemed then to be personal, and the taking of prisoners very profitable from a pecuniary point of view—very different from our modern methods of warfare. His account of the plague is both interesting and instructive. The absolute want of sanitary arrangements and the atrocities perpetrated during the plague are vividly portrayed.

We can commend the book, to any one who is not familiar with Ambroise Paré's life, as one that will both instruct and interest him.

W. W. K.

TRAUMATIC INJURIES OF THE BRAIN AND ITS MEMBRANES; WITH A SPECIAL STUDY OF PISTOL-SHOT WOUNDS OF THE HEAD IN THEIR MEDICO-LEGAL AND SURGICAL RELATIONS. By CHARLES PHELPS, M.D., Surgeon to Bellevue and St. Vincent's Hospitals. 8vo. pp. 582, with forty-nine illustrations. New York: D. Appleton & Co., 1897.

THIS remarkable work appears certain to rank among the first upon the subject of traumatism of the cranial contents, if, indeed, it does not occupy the position of pre-eminence. It is a fit companion volume to Macewen's far-famed *History of the Pyogenic Inflammations of the Brain and Spinal Cord*, and, with it, forms a splendid summary of modern knowledge of cerebral, infective, and traumatic disorders. As stated in the preface, it is designed to be a concise and systematic exposition of the injuries which the brain suffers from external violence, a division of brain surgery which has the greatest practical importance and has received the least careful attention. It has been based essentially, if not entirely, upon an observation of five hundred consecutive cases of recent occurrence. The picture which they represent is complete in every respect save secondary pyogenic infection of the brain substance, but even this deficiency has been supplied by a condensation of the views of Macewen as expressed in the above-mentioned volume. These cases are so large in number, varied in character, and complete in detail as to have afforded the distinguished author ample materials from which to build up this comprehensive and satisfactory treatise.

The volume is divided into three parts. Part I. is concerned with general traumatic lesions, embracing general considerations of cranial fractures, as well as their pathology, symptomatology, diagnosis, prognosis, and principles of treatment. The intracranial traumatic lesions are classified as hemorrhages, thromboses of sinuses, contusions, lacerations and their sequelæ, as meningeal and parenchymatous inflammations, usually septic, and atrophy. Hemorrhage is studied under the headings of epidural, pial, and cortical. Concussion of the brain is eliminated as a relic of the past without scientific basis, and for its phenomena the lesions of contusion and laceration are made responsible. All symptoms are held to result from demonstrable organic changes. By the elimination of the terms "encephalitis" and "compression," the study of symptoms has also been much clarified. "As each form of intracra-